GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4731
ANSWERED ON:30.03.2017
Powerloom and Handloom Sectors
Kesineni Shri Srinivas

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the classificatory distinction between powerloom and handloom sectors;

(b) whether any changes to this classification have been made and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any overlap is possible between these two sectors and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether many powerloom units are receiving subsidies meant for handloom units and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to protect the handloom industry from the encroachment by powerloom industry?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES
(SHRI AJAY TAMTA)

(a): Looms operated with the aid of electric power for manufacturing of cloth are called as Powerlooms whereas the handlooms are looms operated without aid of power.

(b) to (d): No, Madam.

(e): The Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 protects the interests of the handloom sector from the encroachment of the powerloom industry by way of reserving 11 textile articles with certain specifications for exclusive production by handlooms. Whenever any violation is detected, suitable action is initiated under the Handloom Act, 1985. Government of India has introduced 'Handloom Mark' and 'India Handloom Brand' to identify the origin and quality of the handloom products. Also, 57 handloom products have also been registered under the Geographical Indication (GI) of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.
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